

Appl. No. 09/992,558
Amdt. dated December 23, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 23, 2004

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph that starts on Page 1, Line 25 with:

Initially, application program development for smart cards was essentially proprietary to the smart card manufacturers or the smart card issuers. Smart card application development has, however, evolved over recent years so that it is no longer proprietary. Through the adoption of open architectures for application development, it is now possible to develop applications that can run on smart cards from different manufacturers, on other devices for the storage of data (i.e., storage devices), or other resource constrained devices that, like smart cards, have small amounts of available memory. Java Card smart card technology is an example of one such open development architecture. It uses the Java™ programming language and employs the Java Card smart card runtime environment (JCRE). The JCRE conforms to ISO 7816 and defines a platform on which applications written in the Java programming language can run on smart cards and other resource-constrained devices. Applications written for the JCRE are referred to as applets and must conform with the Java Card 2.1 Virtual Machine Specification (as revised from time to time) published by Sun Microsystems, Inc., which is incorporated by reference herein and referred to generally as the "JCVM Specification."